

the third time—making it the only chamber to have won this prestigious award more than twice.

These awards are a tribute to the knowledge, leadership skills, and management effectiveness of chamber President Bob Bartz and to the quality of the work done by the organization's staff and the spirit and involvement of its volunteers, including the chamber's officers and Board of Directors.

I congratulate the Manatee Chamber of Commerce and its members for these impressive awards. I recognize their many accomplishments, and I appreciate their successful efforts to help businesses succeed and enhance the lives of Manatee County residents.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Mr. PICKERING. Madam Speaker, on Roll-call vote 806 to strike section 726 from the bill relating to the importation of prescription drugs, I voted "no". I intended to vote "aye". My vote would not have changed the result, but I want this RECORD to reflect my intention.

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS KENNEDY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, we rise to honor Dennis Kennedy upon his retirement as the Mayor of the City of Morgan Hill. The City of Morgan Hill is located in southern Santa Clara Valley, approximately 12 miles south of San Jose.

Mr. Kennedy has the distinction of being the City's first widely elected Mayor of Morgan Hill and also the longest serving Mayor overall, at an impressive four terms. By many accounts, Mr. Kennedy would have overwhelmingly won a fifth term had he not chosen to retire.

The community's decision to elect Mr. Kennedy as its first mayor was most likely based on his firm commitment to public service demonstrated through his roles as a member of the City of Morgan Hill's General Plan Task Force, Planning Commission, and his participation on the Urban Limit Line Study Commission.

In addition, Mr. Kennedy was very active in the City's Visioning Process and as a result was heavily involved in the process of constructing a new Aquatics Center, Community & Cultural Center, Centennial Recreation Center and the establishment of the local Community Health Foundation and, most recently, a County Library.

Mr. Kennedy has deep-seated roots within the community of Santa Clara County. He is a graduate of Bellarmine College Preparatory School and Santa Clara University, where he received his engineering degree.

On behalf of the constituents we represent in the City of Morgan Hill, we thank Mr. Kennedy for his commitment to public service that has lasted over 25 years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unable to participate in three votes on the floor of the House of Representatives on the afternoon of September 5, 2007. I was absent in order to be present for the return to the United States Senate of my friend and colleague from South Dakota, Senator TIM JOHNSON, who has been recovering from an incapacitating brain injury.

As noted, I was not present for three votes:

The first vote was H. Res. 629, extending the condolences and sympathy of the House of Representatives to the Government and the people of Greece for the grave loss of life and vast destruction caused by the devastating fires raging through Greece since June 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that question.

The second vote was H. Res. 508, recognizing the strong security alliance between the Government of Japan and the United States and expressing appreciation to Japan for its role in enhancing stability in the Asia-Pacific region and its efforts in the global war against terrorism. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that question.

The third vote was H. Res. 544, expressing the sympathy and pledging the support of the House of Representatives and the people of the United States for the victims of the devastating thunderstorms that caused severe flooding in 20 counties in eastern Kansas beginning on June 26, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that question.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO NICHOLAS CAPTAIN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Nicholas Captain, a veteran of World War II, for his exemplary service in defense of freedom and award him with the Jubilee of Liberty Medal.

On June 6, 1944 the United States and its allies embarked on the largest air, land, and sea invasion ever undertaken. This massive effort included 5,000 ships, 10,000 airplanes, and over 150,000 American, British, Canadian, Free French, and Polish Troops. During the 50th anniversary of this historic event, the French Government awarded the Jubilee of Liberty Medal to American servicemen for their participation in the Battle of Normandy.

Nicholas served in the United States Army, 148th Ordnance Motor Vehicle Armament Company in Normandy, Northern France and in Rhineland. For his heroism and valor, Nicholas received the European African-Middle Eastern Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal and Victory Medal.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Nicholas Captain for his heroic service in the United States Military. His dedication to this country in the theater of war is truly exemplary. I commend the sacrifices he has made

to protect our freedoms and I am pleased to have the opportunity to recognize his service. I applaud Nicholas Captain for his successes and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING MR. JOSHUA BRESNICK

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents Mr. Joshua Bresnick of Parker, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. His outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young man.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Bresnick to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, D.C.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Bresnick and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, It is a great honor for me to rise today to recognize the 40th anniversary of the University of West Florida.

The vision of the University is to distinguish itself as the best regional comprehensive university in America, and it has achieved that mission. Situated on 1,600 acres, UWF is the second largest main campus in the State of Florida University system and is now home to nearly ten thousand students.

UWF consists of 35 academic buildings, 21 student services facilities, 25 dormitories, 2 university village student apartment complexes and 20 plant support facilities.

The University's contributions to Northwest Florida have been numerous and extremely beneficial to understanding the area's past and helping it move into the future. The highly-regarded anthropology department has been involved in extensive archaeological research, including excavating the prehistoric archaeological site Bernath in Santa Rosa County. The department is also at the forefront of underwater archaeology, excavating shipwrecks from different centuries off the Gulf Coast.